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The International Socialist.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
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RAY EVERITT, Managing Editor.

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Red or White Terror?

BY J.H.

There was perpetrated in Russia by Red Guards, undoubtedly some cruel and unjust acts against their past oppressors, the bourgeois. But this must be made clear that no such acts were sanctioned by the Soviets of Russia; they were committed by individuals wholly and solely on their own initiative. This will be made clear if we look up old daily newspapers, and find where the Bolsheviks abolished the death sentence, but had to resort to it later on, in order to stop the counter-revolutionaries, who took advantage of this fact, and who were springing up on every hand and committing atrocities against the Bolsheviks.

In the street fighting that took place there was probably a good many killed on both sides. This, of course, cannot be called deliberate murder.

To judge Russia alone is to pick out an orange from a basketful.

We must go back to the time when the present ruling class overthrew the landed aristocracy and gained political supremacy. In Europe in 1848, in England during the Cromwellian period. They have not left behind a potless trail nor flew in like doves, any more than the working class of Russia or Hungary have done. But even their actions have paled in comparison to what has come to hand during the last three months from some of the official reports regarding what has taken place in Finland, during and after the unsuccessful attempt of the working class to get control of the powers of State in February, 1918.

The number of men and women taken prisoners numbered about 90,000, 15,000 to 20,000 were shot without any semblance of a trial. The method of procedure was a batch of prisoners were taken from the prison camps and paraded, every tenth one being picked out and shot; the remainder formed up again, and every tenth one shot. Then the ranks of the survivors were searched, and men and women known as dangerous (that is the more prominent ones) were picked out and shot. The only evidence that was necessary was for one of the White Guards to know one, and he was shot.

At Riihimäki 500 were executed, 2000 at Lahti, 600 at Tampere, 4000 at Viiborg, 450 at Vihti, and so on.

In May 200 women were taken out one morning and mown down with machine guns. These proceedings were carried

Slams and Jabs.

By JAYBES.

The Travellers—And What They Travel For.

The British Government has released many Anglo-Australian liners and passages can be obtained now without much difficulty. The cable says: "Most of the present travellers are making the voyage for commercial reasons."

Here is an object lesson for the workers. When those wild-eyed "Win-the-war-patriots" (most of whom are included in the above-mentioned "travellers") saw the necessity of making a trip to France for "commercial reasons," they religiously soiled on members of a class who had no "commercial reason" for making the trip. This voyage entailed much hardship and there was a grave possibility of stopping part of a munition factory in the interim, and for "COMMERCIAL REASONS" they patriotically fought and died—by proxy. The hopes of all tin and bronze rewards having been foregone by these patriots of the dollar mark in the interests of the ordinary bullet-stoppers, and the diligent hunt for cheap money and good markets having resumed its normal, they are preparing to leave Australia for "COMMERCIAL REASONS."

The "travellers" of to-day belong to the same class who economically exploit and socially despise the "Travellers" who visited Europe on their behalf. The common travellers fought for their markets and the better class travellers are now going over to reap the harvest.

BUT—What will the harvest be?

The War Museum—The Chamber of Horrors of the Future.

The Nobocracy of Australia, combining with the Nobocracy of England, are making special arrangements for the establishment of a "War Museum" in the big Australian cities. Thousands of exhibits will be carefully set out for the specific purpose of glorifying war and the human butchers who direct it. This will be done in the hope that a fast becoming decadent sentiment will be reanimated. The martial pride and national thought must not be allowed to die out—so think the foolers and rulers of the populace. It is altogether within the realm of possibility that in a very short time we will find this establishment used for a purpose

out by the military authorities, who accounted for about 15,000 in this way, the remainder being placed in prison camps.

In one prison camp, Ekenas, which had about 7500 prisoners, 2551 died in four months; it must be added that all of these prisoners were under the age of 50 years, and only about 10 per cent. could be attributed to disease. Between June and October 1918, no less than 13,000 died of actual starvation. In a large number of cases, thirst was the cause of death. The conclusion that it is impossible to avoid is, that this vile policy was adopted by the White Government as a means to exterminate the Red prisoners.

In the meantime, courts were established to try the remaining prisoners, some more were shot and many thousands were thrown into prisons on the sole report of a local section of the general staff of the White Guards. It must be here pointed out that the White Guards were recruited exclusively from the bourgeois.

The Government systematically employed torture as a means to extract information from its prisoners.

Floggings with a short length of electric cable was one of the forms adopted, and this went on till as late as Feb. 1919.

All details are given of these floggings in the Social Democrat, a Finnish Socialist daily of Jan. 20th, 1919.

The above has been taken with the exception of a few comments, from the "New Statesman," a bourgeois publication in England, and the editor goes on to say that he has no sympathy with the Reds, whose Government was admittedly humane, but the White Government, on the other hand, are fully responsible for the White terror which has taken on the most sensational forms of barbarity.

contrary to the wishes of those who promoted it.

In a year or so perhaps, we may be looking through this modern "chamber of horrors" and see a Lewis gun ticketed thus: "This ghastly instrument, under the capitalist regime, was extensively used in market capturing campaigns; it was originally designed for this purpose, but was discovered to have a great effect upon workers who rebelled against the indignity. Fortunately, with the capturing of political power by the workers, this and others of its species fell into the workers' hands; having control of these instruments of brutality, it was decided to abandon their use. The only penalty imposed upon the Capitalist class who sanctioned their use in the past, was that they do some useful work."

The Craft Union Fakir Could Not Exist If The Workers Had Shop Control.

The Craft Union Fakir who assists the master class to fool the working class, performs a function akin to that performed by the slaughterman, in his relation to the butcher, both participate in the deed. It is easier to fool the workers if the act has a semblance of labor about it. With the workers organised on the basis of "Shop Control Boards," treachery would cease. The Secretary could no longer be bought, he would have nothing to sell. This system of organisation in the mill, mine and factory would bring the workers into closer contact; there they would be more easily educated to understand the method of exploitation, and from there they would understand the function of the working class in the Industrial Democracy that is to be. The One Big Union that does not aim steadily for the abolition of the capitalist system means nothing to the workers, but the One Big Union that stands on the principle that between the working class and the capitalist class, there is nothing in common, recognising in Political action the final act of the revolution, organising and educating the working class to "take and hold" the means of production, means M.I.U. Upon that principle the A.S.P. stands or falls.

Capitalism is Going—Help Us To Give It A Push.

There are things we certain Rich people and deens. There are many who believe this in regard to everything else except themselves. Those who bolster up Capitalism know that past systems came, lived their day and died with a struggle, making room for their inevitable successors. Capitalism has had a fair innings, it has lived its day, and to say that it WILL go is no more utopian than to say it came.

Have YOU, as a worker, anything to gain by bolstering up this decaying system? Do you think that some day you will become a capitalist? You, as a worker, have interests in common only with workers, it is your duty to your class to ally yourself with a working class political party which aims to abolish Capitalism. You have as much chance of being a capitalist as I have of being King of England. Even the small capitalists are being driven into our ranks. All things trend towards Socialism. We need your assistance. Capitalism is digging its own grave, we want you to help us bury it. How much longer will we have to wait for you?

Neither Political Nor Industrial Action Alone is Sufficient.

Socialism aims to stop the Capitalist class from robbing the working class. To do this it MUST get possession of the means of production and distribution now in possession of the capitalist class. This cannot be accomplished unless the workers capture political power. This necessitates revolutionary political action. Revolutionary political action is the destructive weapon of the proletariat, for it cannot capture political power with the object of administering through the political State. It aims at the capture of Political Power to abolish the Political State and establish an Industrial State in its place. An Industrial State will be representative of the workers themselves in the various industries which will necessitate industrial organisation. But are we to wait until that political victory has been achieved before we organise in industry a class? Certainly NOT! We must organise to-day to be prepared for to-morrow. With a political victory lacking, the industrial organisation (might) the capitalist class could hamper and sabotage the working class movement to such an extent that unnecessary bloodshed might be the outcome. It is a recognition of the scientific truth that places the A.S.P. at the head of the Political list in Australia.

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MELBOURNE BRANCH. LIST OF MEETINGS.

September.—General Meeting 9th; Executive, 23rd.
October.—General Meeting 7th; Executive 21st.
November.—General Meeting 4th; Executive 18th.

PAMPHLETS YOU SHOULD READ.

Economic Warfare. By W. R. Winspear, 6d, posted 7d.
How Capitalism has Hypnotised Society. By T. Brown, 2d, posted 3d.
Socialism the Goal of Civilisation. Chas. Vail, 2d, posted 3d.
Towards Human Freedom. J. R. Wilson, 1d, posted 2d.
What Means this Strike. De Leon, 3d, posted 4d.
Wage, Labor and Capital. Marx, 3d, posted 4d.

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Andy Carnegie is Dead, But the Exploitation of the Workers Still Continues.

"Andy" Carnegie, the Scotch-American millionaire, has passed in his chair. For many years, by supplying church organs, alters, and such like, Andy was paving the way to the golden streets. He posed as a philanthropist, he donated libraries, he founded institutions bearing his name. Andy wrung his vast wealth from the blood and tears of the workers. In his steel mills he ground the slaves with ruthless fury. He employed pink-toned spies and thugs to browbeat the workers when they struck against the slavery imposed upon them. After grinding and degrading those who made the steel for 40 years, he sold his interests to Morgan for the trifling sum of 100 millions, and now he is dead. The man Carnegie is gone, but the system which permitted such as he to exploit an enslaved the workers, still remains; the wealth extracted by Carnegie is still used to further exploit the working class. Carnegie is no better and no worse than any other capitalist; he is as much a product of circumstances as the prostitute who sells her body for bread. We do not rail against individuals; we are out to abolish capitalism, which is responsible for both millionaire and the prostitute.

And Still the Press Continues to Lie About Russia.

In a cable of a few days ago we were informed that the position of Kolchak was hopeless. General Ironside was in a very awkward position, the British troops on the Murman Peninsula and at Archangel were in a most precarious position, the hope of Finnish assistance, since the overthrow of General Mannerheim and the election of Stahlberg as President, cannot be relied upon owing to the latter's decision to give up any interfering in Russia. That completes last week's news concerning Russia, as reported in the capitalist press. This week we find that Denekine has joined up with Kolchak and formed a front across East and South Russia, from which important results are expected. In other words, either Denekine or this modern Sinbad (Kolchak) have completed a 3,000 mile march in a few days.

We have every reason to believe that THEY HAVE JOINED. But the Bolsheviks have chased them altogether, and it will not surprise us, should we learn next week, that they and their imaginary armies have been chased into the sea. WE KNOW that the Allied troops will be eventually withdrawn from Russia. The Allied nations are bankrupt and are at their wits-end to raise finance for economic exploits and meeting war debts, much less going further into debt on such a hopeless mission.

A Social Peril.

BY MOSES BARITZ

The moralists in Australia have suddenly come in contact with a serious problem. Slumbering in the recesses of a "pure" Australia, they have been aroused from that placid by a "shell" Nor is that article a mere "agitator." It is a warning of power of strength and has exploded the tranquility over the whole of the continent, the high explosion of a social peril.

The culprit is Dr. Cummins, a quarantine. When the disease is dispelled, we see what the damage amounts to. The disease is responsible for the death of no less than 55,000 soldiers in the war with some venereal diseases.

Kind reader, there is no such thing as a FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND SOLDIERS who have the disease, and that they are able to infect the rest of the population. For years this subject has been taken in social circles, being strictly limited to discussion in medical periodicals. Big savages played such a part that even the Royal British Government maintained a commission to deal with the disease. It sat for many months, and finally published a report, one that is quoted in this article. What was significant about the attitude of the Commission was the fact that the press were admitted to the hearings, and each week a resume of the work done was distributed to the press. NOTHING OF VALUE WAS GIVEN.

Our beneficent ruling class, so concerned of our welfare, made it possible for us to read the report, but it adds very materially to the sum of knowledge that socialists alone were in possession of, and could alone explain.

The fact of 55,000 men, who otherwise might be healthy, being the carriers of such diseases, has caused an outburst in the press. One paper, whose editor appears to possess more brawn than brain, indignantly averred that the "Anzacs" were being libelled! Of course to that 19th century prude, the truth will always remain a libel.

Another paper writes pointedly about the "strong need for immediate action," and would have thought that the time for action was before, not AFTER the battle. For the ruling class in England were well aware of what a factor war is in the growth of venereal diseases. It is simply nonsense to talk now, so soon after the Commission on V.D. had obtained expert advice upon the subject. Sir Victor Horsley, Major L. W. Harrison, Surgeon G. B. Scott, and Surgeon General May, R.N., all testified to the prevalence of V.D. in various countries.

The British Government were fully aware of the state of things long before the war. Take the following question sent to Lord Sydenham, the chairman of the Commission of Sir Victor Horsley:

"Q. 11, 118. Apart from what we might call physiological conditions, does the condition of filthy surroundings make persons more liable to the disease or make the disease more virulent in them?"

Ans.: Yes, that has been the experience of every war. One of the consequences of war always has been that syphilis has been worse in the community.

Q. 11, 119: During the war?
Ans.: Yes, and after a war. It was extremely marked after the Peninsular War. I think it was the experience of most of us that there was a great deal of syphilis after the Boer war even."

THAT WAS ASKED ON MARCH 11th, 1914! Nearly six months before the war!

The war has simply demonstrated that our ruling is either unable to control the system, or the system completely controls them. Their class domination is of a type that they cannot do what is necessary to prevent this modern scourge playing havoc with the human family.

It is once more demonstrated that the contagion is circulated by women who are not professional prostitutes. The figures are tabulated according to the statements made by soldiers who, when examined and asked details, have informed their medical officers, as to whether it

was a prostitute that he was in contact with. The following figures will give an idea of how the whole civil population is taking with it. It is taken from the "Sunday Times" of August 10th.

Spital.	Cases	Infection by women not prostitutes.
No. 1	1,288	83.5
No. 2	1,082	66.4
No. 3	5,691	64.6

"The Times" continues: "Roughly, we can say that two-thirds of all patients in venereal hospitals for Imperial troops were infected here because of their relationship with women of this class."

It is an official statement, and what has been denied by the medical authorities. Men and women are not always necessary to obtain the disease. The sexual intercourse stands condemned as a means of prostitution, and the disease is spread.

The unprofessional and ungratifying certain physiological conditions, a factor in the contract of the disease. The professional prostitutes take more care of the disease, but in plying the trade, they are not only kept, but paid for the time of her indisposition so that she would not lose income by it.

The Chief Constable of London, England, has stated that the prostitution has declined in London since the war. The "Standard" writes: "The 'cheap' The sexual intercourse is a factor, and will find a way to be expressed, whether laws are enacted to be better, or not. The experts who had with the matter have stated the need and again the development of the situation is the outcome of the social conditions. The inability of young men to marry, and their resort to the brothel, and the manner creates a demand for the prostitutes.

The female, however, because of the plague from economic reasons, and there is a diversity of those reasons. The social factor, then, is the cause of the social arrangement within the system. Were the social forces dominated by the working class, the direct outcome would be for the young men and women to choose their own partners, and so eliminate the danger of the spread of venereal disease.

The influence of marriage on the decline of venereal disease is best demonstrated by the fact that the statistical returns for the army are so much lower than for the navy. The soldiers are allowed to marry, and the "strength" of the soldiers being allowed to have wives with them, even when they are in foreign service. Surgeon G. B. Scott, who testified before the Commission, applied to General Horsley:

"Q. 5944 (1) ... moral and physical ... to be great ... the men ... strength? ... I think they were able to be married ... it would reduce venereal disease ... would tend to reduce syphilis ... consequently, national expense ... Ans.: Yes, but it would create a large expense in having to build more barracks and houses for them."

There you see the admission that marriage as such will have a tendency to purify the sex relations, and so enable a move to be made for the obliteration of the disease. It need not be too frequently emphasized that under the present system the pleasures of companionship involved in the marriage is not easily obtained, due to the inability of providing for a wife. An economic system that gives to the producing class its

products will do away with the necessity of women selling their bodies for the highest or even the lowest sum.

A slave class, such as the proletariat, is only receiving commodities sufficient for its reproduction, and the slave that is only creating within the system a competitor for his own job. When the Christian Saviour said that he had come to set father against son, and brother against brother, he was apparently giving a demonstration, of the present system. The girl puts her mother out of a job, because her cost of reproduction is lower. The son puts the father out of a job, because he, too, can be reproduced at a lower rate. Under a system where the capitalist system, marriage is not possible if there is to be any pleasure in life. Yet marriage even today would surely eliminate much of the spread of venereal diseases. So that the women may have more evidence on this point the following reply to Sir Almeric Murray, given by Surgeon-General A. W. May, of the Royal Navy is appended.

Answer to Q. 415: You must remember that probably these figures of the navy are far larger than the army. The reason THAT WE ARE A COMPULSORY CELIBATE SERVICE IN THE NAVY AND THE NATION AT LARGE IS NO ENCOURAGEMENT WHATEVER TO HER SAILORS TO MARRY. THEREFORE YOU WILL GET A FAR LARGER PROPORTION OF VENEREAL DISEASE IN THE NAVY THAN IN ANY OTHER FORCE CIVIL OR MILITARY.

The point brought rather clearly to the fore is that if the teaching of sex is given in school, there would be a chance of reducing the number of the women of both sexes on whom the women were nearly scared to marry. It was suggested: Such an effort to tell the truth to children so that they might be guided in life was an outrage. Note them, the reply. The questioner is Major Harrison, Pathologist at the Royal Naval Medical Hospital, Rochester.

Q. 415: When you said you would give instruction to young boys, do you mean you actually give this instruction to young boys and girls in school children?"

Ans.: Yes, I would point out the danger which arise from these diseases. The poor old lady nearly collapsed!

As a consequence, one is compelled to call to mind the article by a well-known Australian authority. The article is from the "British Medical Journal" of February 1st, 1914, page 125. The article is written by Sir James Barrett. In that he says:

"To me, the problem of chastity involves a much wider survey. We have a physiological instinct of great intensity round which has been built the finer feelings which we value more than anything else in life. No sane man wishes to see the animal instinct divorced from these emotions, but we cannot fail to see that if the legitimate gratification in marriage is postponed to the summer of life, irregular relationships are certain to be formed. ... Until social arrangements are re-arranged irregular sexual relationships are likely to continue. ... Without forecasting social relationships I see no present prospect of sweeping away the whole of this hideous paraphernalia."

On all sides there is an admission that the question of venereal disease is not a medical or moral question, but purely a SOCIAL QUESTION. It is something that has to be solved by a social cataclysm, not by tinkering with prophylaxis. The attempt to get a sexual shield, does not remove the evil.

There is one solution. That is a scientific system of society, wherein sex favors will not be bought or sold. Wherein men and women will be allowed to submit to one another because they love.

A system that will not make a woman the slave of a slave. A system that will provide for all mankind the necessities of life. A system wherein prudery and cant will not play a part.

Venereal disease can be allayed even in this system of society. But the chief factor, that of promiscuity in sexual relations, is bound to continue because of the economic stress within the system. Because IT IS SOCIAL, the means to eradicate it will have to be social means. Tinkering with inoculations, prophylactics, "606," or any of the other "cures," will not do it.

The matter will have to be taken out of the hands of prudens in, and outside the medical fraternity. It will have to be faced with courage and determination. Royal Commissions won't do it. Society organized on a basis of the Socialist system alone can eliminate it. It is a social disease, and its cure will be social.

So in order to exploit political sentiments, is bound to continue because of the economic stress within the system. Because IT IS SOCIAL, the means to eradicate it will have to be social means. Tinkering with inoculations, prophylactics, "606," or any of the other "cures," will not do it.

Proletarian Organisation in New Zealand.

With all other countries, the history of the development of working class organisation in New Zealand, is the history of the opportunist and reactionary. It is the history of betrayal of principle, and the ever-devouring desire for seats in parliament. With conscious falsity, the reputation of New Zealand has been universally proclaimed as a "Socialist" State. The constant conflict between the working class and the employing class has shown the absurdity of the claim of New Zealand being a "Socialist" State.

In 1890, the first great battle on the industrial field was staged—that of the Maritime Strike.

Shortly afterwards the long process of working class organisation commenced, according to the development of capital. Its first form appeared on the industrial field—the inevitable trade union. The struggle of the trade unions immediately brought the political forces of the State into action, demonstrating the class nature and function of the State.

Then appeared the second form: this time upon the political field—the N.Z. Socialist Party. For a time its propaganda went energetically on, but owing to the low degree of capitalist development, demanding a longer generation of wage slaves, conditions of slavery were comparatively good, and the limit of wage-slave's receptive to revolutionary propaganda was reached.

In the meantime a slight change occurred on the industrial field by the linking up of a number of trade unions, forming the United Federation of Labour. The U.F.L. functioned successfully in its conflicts with individual employers, but in 1913 it was forced into its first general strike, and, alas!—its last. The forces of the State proved once more, and very forcibly too, that behind the desire of the Government to keep law and order, there lurked the economic interests of the employing class.

A number of leaders of the trade unions, some ex-members of various English political parties and some who tired of the revolutionary propaganda of the Socialist Party, then set about the task of exploiting the growing political sentiment of the workers aroused by the Government's action during the strikes.

They formed the N.Z. Social Democratic Party, with a "Socialist" objective, a set of principles to lure the weaker individuals of the Socialist Party, and an entirely reform platform of about a dozen rotten planks to catch the votes and shillings of the proletariat petite bourgeois, and small farmers. For a time the S.D.P. flourished, in so far as it secured two seats in Parliament and paid a few opportunists to organise and swell the membership and finance of the Party.

In the meantime another change occurred upon the political field. The Coal Miners' and Waterside Workers formed Federations. They functioned independently of each other, when, in a half-hearted way, they fought for increased wages necessitated by the increasing cost of living following the progress of war. The upward movement of prices and the failure of the trade unions to overtake, or even keep pace with the increasing cost of living, generated more political sentiment.

But the revolutionary objective and principles appealing to the less reactionary elements of the S.D.P., and even the name of the party itself baulked the mass of workers timidly speaking of carrying the fight from the industrial field to the political.

So in order to exploit political sentiments, is bound to continue because of the economic stress within the system. Because IT IS SOCIAL, the means to eradicate it will have to be social means. Tinkering with inoculations, prophylactics, "606," or any of the other "cures," will not do it.

The matter will have to be taken out of the hands of prudens in, and outside the medical fraternity. It will have to be faced with courage and determination. Royal Commissions won't do it. Society organized on a basis of the Socialist system alone can eliminate it. It is a social disease, and its cure will be social.

ment to a still greater extent, the fakirs of the S.D.P. decided to again change the political party. A broadening of the already rotten reform platform, union with Trades and Labour Councils, a change of name, and into the political field went the N.Z. Labour Party.

Exploiting the ignorance of the workers, their growing mistrust of the Tory and Liberal parties, their anger against the Government for defeating their strikes and "allowing" the prices of commodities to increase, the N.Z.L.P. flourishes to an unprecedented extent. Under its yellow banner opportunists marched triumphantly into Parliament; freaks aspiring to parliamentary honors contest the municipal elections, quite willing to run municipal affairs in the interests of the capitalist class in order to fit themselves for the scramble for the larger political plums.

These reactionary opportunists acclaim the Bolsheviks of Russia to-day. Yesterday, in their superlative ignorance, they cheered the Mensheviks and Right Revolutionaries who tried to maintain the bourgeois regime.

With economic and political problems they are hopelessly entangled, and of the great revolutionary movements of the world they know nothing.

On the industrial field, during the past few months, the workers are learning some revolutionary lessons. The war absorbed 100,000 slaves, most of whom would have found themselves upon the unemployed market, and now that the war has ended nucleus a four years' accumulation of slaves are dumped, to compete with the lucky, unfortunates who have jobs and to increase the empty stomach brigade. Out of war-made institutions thousands of girl slaves are being ejected like empty shells from a machine gun, to also compete upon the labour market or upon the marriage market, or perhaps to sell themselves without the legal sanction of the State.

Now that New Zealand has reached a stage in its economic development that contains the conditions for the rapid growth of revolutionary organisation, a number of Marxian Students, trained in the course of the past ten years, have laid the foundation of the last proletarian organisation of N.Z.

In the first week of this year a Conference was held at Christchurch, and the nucleus of a revolutionary socialist party formed—the N.Z. Marxian Students' Association. Organising propaganda sections, training speakers and journalists, collecting data for literary work, preparing for a great conference next New Year, the N.Z.M.A. rushes through the initial stages of revolutionary organisation. From the second conference will emerge the Socialist Party of N.Z., true to the revolutionary principles, ready to work for the achievement of the world revolution.

THOS. FEARY.

A. S. P.

NEWS AND NOTES.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

On Sunday, August 17th, Mr. Beeby, who was billed to lecture at the Hall, was obliged to leave for Melbourne on the night train, and Dr. Arthur supplied his place at short notice, choosing for his subject: "State Endowment of Women and Children."

This is a favorite question with the lecturer, and no doubt he is really sincere in his desire to provide more nourishing food for starving and ill-fed children; but the method he suggested by no means met with the approval of his audience.

Dr. Arthur said, after having given the subject careful consideration, he had come to the conclusion that the State should provide a certain sum for every child, to be paid to the mother, for its proper maintenance; he did not think it was fair that a single man, with no responsibilities, should receive the same wage as a married man.

He was not in favor of the employers paying higher wages to married men, as he knew that if that were done, the single ones would be kept on, and the married ones dismissed.

He quite understood that many of his audience would say that the system was to blame, but he wanted something new, and the system couldn't be altered in

time to provide for the coming generation.

At the close of the lecture the speaker was besieged with a perfect avalanche of questions, and discussion was keen and animated.

The Hall was again packed, and the evening was, as usual, a very successful one.

The Domain meeting was also excellent, large crowds being around the platform listening to the speakers.

The revolutionary propaganda which the speakers always emphasise, although many claim it to be unpopular, always attracts large and interested audiences.

Paper sales continue to be good.

MARCIA REARDON,
Asst. Secretary.

Lying about Marx--- A Reply

The Editor "The International Socialist."

Sir,
Re quotation from Marx in "Socialist" of August 1st. My purpose in giving the quotation was to show that Marx was opposed to religion.

I could have given other quotations that would have served the purpose, but gave this as being fuller and more to the point.

I gave it in all good faith, believing that Marx wrote these words in "Secret Societies of Switzerland," and words to the same effect in "Volksblatt No. 281." I found three independent authorities giving these references, but as it is impossible for me to verify same by original documents, I will be obliged if Mr. Baritz will give me full information on the subject. I have often seen the quotation given, and have never seen it questioned. However, if I am at fault Mr. Baritz will correct.

As I stated in the letter to the "Socialist," I am only beginning the study of Socialism, if I am wrong in this matter, well, I am one more step ahead.

Yours sincerely,

C. W. BAKER

115 Goulburn St., Sydney, N.S.W.
August 12th, 1919.

Dear Mr. Baker,
Your exceedingly prompt reply to the article sent you was received to-day. The editor of the "International Socialist" has asked me to reply to the letter. You will therefore pardon me for the liberty I am taking in doing so. Pleasurable indeed is it to have to write you. It is rare indeed that one comes in contact with men of your calibre, so willing to acknowledge that they might be mistaken. Quite a contrast to R. S. Ross, who as ignorant as a babe of Marxism, let your mistake appear in his paper. As stated before, had he known anything of Marx your mistake would never have seen the light. He would have written you about it, and have rectified the blunder. But as he knows nothing at all about Socialism, though he is an adept of making it into a good business for himself and a few others, it is now my duty to give the full details about the statement you wrote to the "Socialist" (2).

True it is that Marx was opposed to religion. But that opposition was of a scientific nature, and not the rationalistic nonsense of Messrs. Ross and Scott Bennett. Marx's opposition was from the standpoint of the materialistic conception of history, which explains the rise and development, and change of ideas. Messrs. Ross and Bennett make religion the work of some charlatan or other; not due to the growth of social and economic conditions.

Then again, Marx never wrote a work entitled "Secret Societies in Switzerland." Again, the quotation appearing in the "Volksblatt," No. 281, means nothing at all, for you do not say what "Volksblatt" it was. But inasmuch as Marx did not write or make the statement, it makes no difference where it was printed.

Now, Mr. Baker, if you care to go to the Melbourne Library in Swanston street, and ask for "Handwörterbuch der Staatswissenschaften," Vol. 6, pages 600-603, you will find an article on Marx signed by Frederick Engels. At the end of that work you will get practically all that Marx wrote, and if you find "Secret Societies in Switzerland" among them, please write again and let me know. In fact MARX NEVER WROTE THAT BOOK AT ALL.

The story connecting Marx with that quotation is as follows:—

When Marx went over to Germany in 1867, to arrange with Meisner, the publisher of the first volume of "Das Kapital," about the early issue of the "proofs," he had an introduction to a raving Anarchist named Wilhelm Marr.

Lenin on Kautsky.

Continued from Front Page

ian revolutions in Europe absolutely will give a limited suffrage to the bourgeoisie. It may happen. After the war and after the experience of the Russian revolution, it is probable that this will happen. But it is not necessary for the enforcement of proletarian dictatorship, it is not an absolute distinguishing mark of the logical conception of such a dictatorship, it is not a necessary prerequisite for the historical and class conception of the dictatorship.

The conception that underlies it and the absolute prerequisite of this dictatorship is the forcible crushing of the exploiters as a class, and therefore the disorganizing of "pure democracy," i.e., equality and freedom in regard to that class.

From this point of view alone can this question be theoretically set forth. And Kautsky, by failing to discuss the question from this angle, has shown that he opposes the Bolsheviks, not as a theoretician, but as an opportunist and a bourgeois.

In what country, and under what peculiar national conditions, or this or that capitalism, this or that limitation shall be legal, exclusively or generally, whether or not democracy is violated when the exploiters are in question that is a question of national trait, peculiar to this or that capitalism, to this or that revolution.

Theoretically the matter resolves itself into the question: is the dictatorship of the proletariat possible without violating democracy as far as the class of exploiters is concerned?

Kautsky has expressly omitted this, the single, the only important and essential question. Kautsky has set forth all kinds of quotations from the works of Marx and Engels, but not those which refer to the case in question and to which I referred.

Kautsky has dismissed the things that suit him, using as premises those facts which can be accepted without qualification by liberals and bourgeois opponents, because they do not transcend the sphere of their thinking. But he has wholly disregarded the main subject, the fundamental fact that the proletariat cannot win without crushing the opposition of the bourgeoisie, without forcibly overpowering its opponents. And where there is "forcible crushing," there is not "freedom," there also cannot be democracy.

This Marr was a notorious reactionary and Anti-Semite, whose idea was that of Mr. Ross, of the "Socialist," the abolition of the Church. He was always inveighing against the "rich," and was a bitter opponent of the International Working Men's Association. Wherever he went he used to attack the church in the same silly way that Scott Bennett does.

This Marr was responsible for several pamphlets and books, the most important of which is one called "Young Germany in Switzerland," or to give it the German title, "Das junge Deutschland in der Schweiz." That work dealt with certain societies in Switzerland, and contains the very quotation that you attributed to Marx. The quotation is as follows:—

"The idea of God must be destroyed. It is the keystone of a perverted civilisation. The true root of liberty, of equality, of culture, is Atheism."

Marx had an intense hatred of him, and on several occasions exposed his reactionary ideas, especially his Anti-Semitism. In that respect Marr was in line with W. H. Emmett, of the S.L.P., who also indicates his Anti-Semitic bias.

In conclusion, Mr. Baker, just look up the source of your statement, and you will find that it is an Anti-Socialist who makes the quotation. It has been done for years, though it is to be hoped that it is ended here. Had it been left to Mr. Ross, this libel would have been circulated, which would have been in harmony with the policy of reaction taken by the V.S.P. and its owner.

It is a pleasure to have come in contact with a man who shows the real spirit of inquiry. Had you been attending those "great" nights at the V.S.P. for the next 20 years they would not have had the vision to have corrected you. Many thanks for the letter, it makes a bond that should lead to a closer association.—Yours, etc.,

MOSES BARITZ.

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